

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION

OF THE

EVANGELICAL

Lutheran Ministerium,

OF THE

STATE OF NEW-YORK,

AND

ADJACENT PARTS,

*Convened in Synod, in Christ Church, Town of Ghent, Columbia
County, September 10th, 1830.*

COOPERSTOWN,

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1831.

STATE OF NEW YORK

AND

IN SENATE,
January 10, 1858.

MINUTES, &c.

MORNING SITTING.

Friday, September 10th, 1830.

IN pursuance of Resolution XXI. of the XXXIV. session of the Synod, the members of the Ministerium and Lay Delegates assembled in Christ Church, town of Ghent, Columbia County, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. President. After which, on reading the names of the members, the following ministers and Lay delegates were found to be present, viz :

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

1. Rev. E. L. HAZELIUS, D. D. President of the Ministerium.
2. " P. F. MAYER, D. D. Pastor of St. John's, Philadelphia.
3. " J. F. G. UHL, Pastor of Churchtown, Columbia County.
4. " F. G. MAYER, Pastor of Ebenezer Church, Albany.
5. " A. WACKERHAGEN, D. D. Pastor of Germantown and Livingston.
6. " P. W. DOMEIER, Pastor of Dilleburg, Manheim, and Tuckersbush.
7. " LOT MERKEL, Guilderland.
8. " F. C. SCHAEFFER, D. D. Pastor of St. James', New-York.
9. " GEO. B. MILLER, Principal of Hartwick Seminary and Secretary to the Ministerium.
10. " H. N. POHLMAN, Pastor of New Germantown, Sprucerun and Germanvalley, and Treasurer to the Ministerium.
11. " JACOB SENDERLING, Pastor of Brunswick & Scaghticoke.
12. " P. G. COLE, Pastor of Saugerties, Woodstock and Athens.
13. " JAC. BERGER, Pastor of Christ Church, Ghent & St. Luke's, Milville.
14. " WM. J. EYER, Pastor of Rhinebeck and Wirtemberg.
15. " C. B. THUEMMEL, Assistant Professor, Hartwick Seminary.
16. " THOS. LAPE, Pastor of St. Paul's Church, Johnstown.

LICENSED CANDIDATES.

17. Rev. H. I. SMITH, Principal of the Female Seminary, Hartwick.
18. " CHAS. A. SMITH, Stone Arabia and Palatine.
19. " WM. LEHMAN,* Professor of Modern Languages, Berkshire Gymnasium, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

LAY DELEGATES.

20. Mr. HENRY, S. MILLER, Churchtown.
21. " JOACHIM B. GARLING, Albany.
22. " JOHN POTTS, Livingston and Germantown.
23. " NICHOLAS SMITH, Dilleburg.
24. " JOSEHH HOXIE, New-York.
25. " THOMAS KILMER, Hartwick.
26. " HENRY SNYDER, Brunswick.
27. " JOHN VAN LOON, Saugerties, Westcamp and Athens.
28. " LEWIS FRALIGH, Ernesttown, U. C.
29. " JOHN MILHAM, Milville.
30. " WM. TELLER, Rhinebeck and Wurtemberg.
31. " JOHN SIMSER, Johnstown.
32. " JOHN W. SALZMAN, Stone Arabia.

COMMISSIONERS.

33. Mr. PHILIP N. BONESTEEL, Rhinebeck.
34. " DAVID J. ACKERMAN, Saddleriver.

CLERICAL MEMBERS ABSENT.

1. Rev. F. H. QUITMAN, D. D. Senior of the Ministerium.
2. " F. W. GEISSENHAINER, D. D.
3. " WM. STARMAN.
4. " G. A. LINTNER.
5. " A. CROWNCE.
6. " F. H. GUENTHER.
7. " P. WIETING.
8. " H. HAYUNGA.
9. " F. W. GEISSENHAINER.
10. " JOHN EISENLORD.
11. " I. D. LAWYER.
12. " WM. D. STROBEL.†

CONGREGATIONS NOT REPRESENTED.

Sharon and Durlach ; New Germantown, German Valley and Sprucerun ; United German Lutheran Churches, New-York ; Waldoborough, Maine ; Schoharie, Middleburg and Cobleskill ; Guilderland and Berne ; Williamsburg, U. C. ; Minden ; Summit

*Rev. Mr. Lehman did not arrive till the afternoon.

† Rev. Mr. Strobel has given notice to the President, that he has united himself to the Synod of South Carolina.

and Davenport ; Sandlake ; Danville ; Lowville, Le Ray ; Cicero ; Starke ; Danube ; Canajoharie.

The Synod having been constituted and the members having taken their seats, the President introduced the Rev. Mr. Probst, of Forks township, Pennsylvania, as delegated from the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Pennsylvania, who was accordingly invited to take a seat as a member of this body. At the same time Rev. C. F. Schæffer of the Maryland Synod, and the minister of the Dutch Reformed Church of Ghent, were introduced and invited to take seats as advising members of this body.

The President then read his annual report, at the close of which he tendered his resignation of his office, in consequence of his contemplated removal to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where he has accepted the Professorship of Church history and Oriental Literature, in the Theological Seminary at that place.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Mayer, seconded by Rev. Dr. Mayer, Resolved, that the report be accepted.

Whereupon the Synod proceeded to the election of a new President to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Dr. Hazelius. On counting the votes it appeared that the Rev. Dr. Schæffer of New-York was chosen.

The minutes of the last Synod were then read.

Minutes of the following Synods were laid on the table, viz : German Evangelical Lutheran, of Pennsylvania ; West Pennsylvania ; Ohio and South Carolina.

The following letters of business were then laid before the Synod.

1. Letter respecting the death of Rev. D. Hendricks.
 2. " Containing apology for absence and parochial report from Rev. H. Hayunga.
 3. Letter of Rev. P. W. Domeier to the late President.
 4. " of Mr. Samuel Near, of Summit.
 5. " of Mr. Ackerman to the President.
 6. " of Rev. W. Starman.
 7. " of John Peck, Secretary of the Lutheran Synod of North Carolina.
 8. Letter of a Committee of the United German Lutheran Churches of New-York.
 9. Apology for the Rev. F. W. Guenther for absence.
 10. Communication from the Rev. Senior concerning the late Rev. Pfeiffer.
 11. A second letter from Mr. Ackerman, was afterwards added.
- It was next resolved, that a Committee of three be appointed to

examine the late President's report, and to lay before this body such parts of it as may deserve particular attention.

Whereupon the President appointed the Secretary, Rev. Dr. Wackerhagen and Mr. Hoxie.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to examine the Treasurer's report.

The following gentlemen were appointed, viz : Rev. Dr. Mayer, Rev. T. Lape, and Mr. John Milham.

The annual contributions to the Synodical and Missionary fund, were then called in, which amounted to sixty-six dollars for the former and twenty-nine for the latter. (See the Statistical Table at the end of the Minutes.)

The Synod then adjourned till 3 o'clock P. M. Prayer by the Rev. Dr. Hazelius.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

Friday, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Synod being met agreeably to adjournment, was opened with prayer by the Secretary. Rev. Wm. Lehman appeared and took his seat as a member of this body.

The order of the day was called up agreeably to Resolution XII. of the 34th Synod, which reads as follows, viz :

“ Resolved, That the question of uniting ourselves with the General Synod, be made the order of the day, on the first day of meeting of the ensuing Synod of this body.”

I. *Resolved*, That this Synod find it not expedient to unite themselves with that body, styled the General Synod of the Lutheran Church in the United States.

Rev. Dr. Hazelius rose and stated that circumstances rendered it imperious on him to retire. He expressed the kindly feelings which he entertained for this body of which he had been for more than twenty-one years a member, and that he should ever pray for the prosperity of the same.

The President addressed Dr. Hazelius in reply, assuring him that the sentiments of affectionate regard which he had expressed for his brethren, were warmly reciprocated by them, and that our best wishes followed him to the place of his future labors.

After which the Rev. gentleman took leave of the members & retired.

The Committee on the Treasurer's accounts brought in their report, stating that they had found the accounts correct, leaving a balance in favor of the Synodical fund of forty dollars and twenty-one and a half cents ; and of the Missionary fund of fifteen dollars and thirty-three cents.

The letter of Rev. H. Hayunga, (marked No. 2.) having been read, it was

II. *Resolved*, That his apology for absence be accepted.

So much of the letter as regarded the supply of his place during his expected absence from his congregations, was referred to the Missionary Committee. In regard to the letter respecting the late Rev. D. Hendricks, (No. 1.) it was on motion of Rev. H. N. Pohlman,

III. *Resolved*, That the Secretary write to the widow of the deceased Rev. D. Hendricks, expressing the condolence of the Synod with her upon the loss of her husband, and their satisfaction at the accounts they have through her received, which do away any unfavorable impressions which may have been made upon their minds by various unofficial reports.

No. 3 having been called up, it was determined that the Secretary take notice in the minutes of the congregations of which the Rev. P. W. Domeier is pastor, Dilleburg, Manheim and Tuckersbush, as being in connexion with this body.

With regard to the application from Summit through Mr. Near, (No. 4.) it was concluded,

That as the congregation are still in some connexion with Rev. J. Eisenlord, we do not consider it proper to interfere, but that they be encouraged to exert themselves, with the assurance on the part of the Synod, that if circumstances shall hereafter render it necessary, we will give them the best aid and advice that is in our power.

Letters No. 5 and 11, were referred to the Missionary Committee.

Mr. Starman's letter (No. 6.) having been read, it was

IV. *Resolved*, That his apology for his absence be accepted and his contribution gratefully received.

The letter of Rev. John Peck, Secretary of the Lutheran Synod of North Carolina (No. 7.) being in order, it was

V. *Resolved*, That said letter be answered by the Secretary of this Ministerium, reciprocating the kind wishes of our brethren of North Carolina, and referring them to the printed minutes, copies of which will be sent to them.

The letter from a Committee of the Trustees and Vestry of the United German Lutheran Churches of New-York, (No. 8.) being called up for consideration, on motion of Rev. Dr. Mayer, it was

VI. *Resolved*, That the Secretary inform the Church council of the United German Lutheran Churches in New-York, that the Ministerium gratefully receive their contribution; that it has been determined to be inexpedient to unite with the General Synod, and

that no desire or intention whatever exists in this body to impose a scheme of Church discipline upon any congregation, or to interfere with its regulations.

The Rev. Mr. Berger having laid before the Synod a letter from Rev. F. H. Guenther, (No. 9.) informing him that the state of his health and that of his family, rendered it very uncertain whether he should be able to attend this Synod.

VII. *Resolved*, That this statement be considered as a satisfactory apology for the absence of Rev. F. H. Guenther.

It was next resolved that a Committee be appointed to whom the printed minutes received from other Synods, be referred for examination, and that they report to-morrow; whereupon the following gentlemen were named, viz: Rev. H. N. Pohlman, F. G. Mayer, Probst, and Mr. John Simser.

The communication from the Rev. Senior, respecting the late Rev. Mr. Pfeiffer being next in order it was on motion of Dr. Wackerhagen,

VIII. *Resolved*, That this Synod deem it highly advisable that the sum of six dollars presented to this Synod by the Rev. Dr. Quitman, as having been found among the effects of Rev. Mr. Pfeiffer, deceased, be appropriated towards the erection of a monument on the grave of Mr. Pfeiffer, deceased, and that Wm. Teller and P. N. Bonesteel, Esqrs. be requested to put this into execution.*

The Committee on the President's report made a verbal report, which was accepted.

IX. *Resolved*, That the Missionary Committee be continued.

The members are Rev. Messrs. G. A. Lintner, Pohlman and Crownce, and Messrs. Hoxie and Cox.

X. *Resolved*, That this Synod reciprocate the courtesy shown us by the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Pennsylvania by appointing a delegate to attend the next meeting of said body. Whereupon Rev. Dr. Mayer was appointed.

On motion of Rev. Thomas Lape the following preamble and resolution were passed, viz:

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to remove from time into eternity our venerable and beloved brother, the late Rev. Henry Moeller,

XI. *Resolved*, That we do deeply deplore his departure from our midst, and sympathise with his relatives in their affliction.

On motion of the Secretary,

* It was stated in the Synod by the Rev. Mr. Eyer, that the congregation in Rhinebeck would undoubtedly raise the balance for a monument to the late Rev. Mr. Pfeiffer.

XII. Resolved, That the thanks of this body be given to the late President of the Synod, the Rev. Dr. Hazelius for the able and interesting report rendered by him; and that we have received with regret the information contained therein, that circumstances render it necessary for him to resign his seat in this body, and that our sincere wishes for his future welfare accompany him.

XIII. Resolved, That the Committee on Hartwick Seminary be continued. The following gentlemen constitute said committee, Rev. Messrs. Senderling and Berger and Mr. Cox.

The various parochial reports were then read and adopted agreeably to Resolution XIV. of 34th Synod. Whereupon resolved to adjourn till 9 o'clock of the following day.

Prayer by the Rev. Treasurer.

MORNING SITTING.

Saturday, 9 o'clock A. M.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Probst,

The minutes of the preceding day were read and accepted.

The President informed the Synod that the Rev. Mr. Eyer had requested leave of absence for himself and deputy, on account of family circumstances which required his presence, leave had accordingly been granted him.

The committee appointed to examine the minutes of other Synods, made their report; which it was resolved to embody in the minutes.

The following is the substance of said report, viz:

"The Committee appointed to examine the minutes of other Synods, report, "That they have found in the minutes of the Synods "of Pennsylvania & South Carolina favorable notices of our Synod, "and beg leave to reciprocate their friendly feelings. The following is a brief abstract of the minutes of the last Synod of the German Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania, which "met in Lancaster, in Trinity week, 1830.

"Number of Ministers and Candidates attending, 34.

"do. of absent ministers and candidates, 19.

"President, Rev. Jacob Miller, of Reading.

"Secretary, Rev. J. P. Hecht, of Easton.

"Treasurer, Rev. J. Becker, of Lancaster.

"A letter of Rev. Dr. Hazelius, President of the Synod of New-York, is mentioned, and in reply to a question contained therein, "whether it was not expedient to open a correspondence between "the several Synods, instead of the more expensive mode of sending "delegates, it was Resolved to adhere to the old custom, and that "the Senior should answer the letter of Dr. Hazelius. It was also

"recommended in consequence of a suggestion contained in the
 "letter of Dr. Hazelius, that the jubilee of the presentation of the
 "Augsburg Confession should be celebrated in all their Churches.
 "On pages 11 and 12 your Committee find it recorded, that a reso-
 "lution was taken to strike off the name of Mr. Peter Kessler, for-
 "merly a member of the Ministerium, from the list of the Ministers.
 "A resolution was passed that if no Missionaries of their connexion
 "could be found, and others should present themselves from the
 "bounds of neighboring Synods, to visit destitute congregations in
 "the bounds of this Synod, the President shall have the right to
 "employ them ; but that they shall continue members of the Synod
 "to which they respectively belong ; only that they shall render an
 "account of their services to this Synod. It was further resolved
 "that the Rev. I. A. Probst should be the delegate to our Synod
 "this year.

"Resolved, That hereafter Students of divinity shall be subjected
 "to two successive yearly examinations, before they can be admitted
 "as candidates."

When the above report of the Committee was read, the President
 stated that he had observed in the minutes of the Pennsylvania Sy-
 nod, a resolution by which they seemed to exercise jurisdiction within
 the bounds of our Synod, whereupon,

Rev. Mr. Probst mentioned that the resolution had been passed
 inadvertently, and that a proper correction should be made at the
 next meeting of their Synod.

From the minutes of the 12th Synodical meeting of the Evangeli-
 cal Lutheran Synod of Ohio and adjacent States, held at Lancaster,
 Fairfield county, Ohio, Trinity week, 1829, the committee beg leave
 to present the following abstract, viz :

" Ministers and Candidates present,	13.
" do. do. absent,	12.
" Rev. A. Henkel, Germantown, Montgomery county, President	
" " H. Heinke, Miamisburg, do. Secretary.	
" " — Kemmerer, Zanesville, Treasurer.	
" Sixteen Ministers report 88 congregations.	
" About 25 vacant congregations.	
" Number of Baptisms recorded,	2046.
" " of Confirmations,	708.
" " of Communicants,	7387.
" " of Schools,	63.
" Amount of contributions,	\$169. ⁶⁷ / ₁₀₀ ."

"By a resolution recorded page 15, of the printed minutes, it ap

"pears that Rev. Messrs. Espich, Heincke and Wagenhals, were appointed a committee of correspondence with Europe. They further passed a resolution to publish a religious monthly paper, in the German language, to be entitled "The Evangelical Lutheran Voice from the West;" the profits of which are to be devoted to send missionaries, and to aid young men in the prosecution of their theological studies.

From the minutes of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of South, Carolina and adjacent states, convened at the Lutheran church Savannah, Nov. 20 &c. 1829, it appears that the officers chosen for the ensuing year, are

"Rev. John Bachman, President.

" " C. F. Bergman, Secretary.

" " Godfrey Dreher, Treasurer.

" The number of congregations is		23
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" do. Ordained Ministers,	7	}	12
" do. Candidates,	5		

" do. Confirmed,		142
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" do. Communicants,		1444
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" do. Baptised 390 Ch. 10 ad.		400
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" do. Burials,		108
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" Amount of contributions,		\$490 06
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"It was resolved that the 25th of June, 1830, as the centennial anniversary of the presentation of the Augsburg Confession, be set apart in the churches within the bounds of this Synod, as a day of solemn Thanksgiving.

"Resolved, That the Synod recommend to those of our ministers in the country, living in adjoining districts, or convenient to one another, to meet together at some one of their churches, whenever a 5th Sabbath in the month occurs, and hold a meeting of three days, for the purpose of preaching the Gospel, and uniting their exertions and efforts, for the promotion of religion and the prosperity of our church.

"Resolved, That this Synod regard the establishment of a Theological Seminary under the auspices of this judicatory, and within its bounds, as highly calculated to advance the interests of our church, and as an object worthy of attention, and that we direct our efforts, forthwith, to the erection of a fund to be hereafter devoted to the establishment and support of such a Seminary.

"The Rev. Wm. D. Strobel was engaged to perform missionary services for four months, beginning December 1st, 1829.

"A letter addressed to that Synod by Rev. Dr. Hazelius, late Pres-

"ident of the Synod of New-York, is noticed with friendly feelings.

From the minutes of the fifth annual session of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of West Pennsylvania, convened at Bedford, October 4th, 1829, it appears that the officers chosen for the ensuing year, are

" Rev. Ruthrauf, President.

" " Heyer, Secretary.

" " Jaeger, Treasurer.

" The number of congregations reported is 106, served by 21 ministers and candidates.

" The number of Ordained Ministers,	22	}	27.
" do. Candidates,	5		
" do. Baptised,			1904.
" do. Confirmed,			855.
" do. Communicants,			8928.
" do. Burials,			361.
" do. Schools,			64.
" Amount of contributions,			\$192 45.

"The minutes of the Synod of New-York were received and gratefully acknowledged. The committee on the same, reported that they found nothing that had any reference to their Synod. It was resolved that 12 copies of their minutes be sent to the Synod of New-York. A letter from Dr. Hazelius was received after the session of the Synod was closed. A missionary and education society was formed."

The President, as Chairman of the Committee on Publications, reported verbally :

That notwithstanding the Chairman had addressed all the members by letter, and had frequently corresponded with those who gave him an opportunity so to do, it had still been desirable that an early meeting of the committee should take place. This was prevented, in part by the frequent illness of the chairman during the past year, and also by the inability of some members to attend at the contemplated time in spring or summer. The new version of the Lutheran catechism was therefore not issued, and no catalogue of recommended books had been published.

The chairman stated, that he was not prepared since the recent consultations of the committee, immediately before and during the session of the Ministerium at this place, to give a complete or written report of the labors of the committee, of the plans, estimates, manuscripts and other materials which are ready to be submitted at a special meeting of the committee ; though he might refer to his cir-

culars, and other documents which he was ready to produce, from which much more information could be obtained, than from his brief verbal report.

He assured the Synod, that the prospects of the committee were highly encouraging, and that though nothing had been published or recommended, during the last year, facts in his possession warranted him to say, that life and health permitting, the labors of the past year might be rendered very efficient during the present. He also informed the Synod, that the members of the committee would probably meet in one of our cities in the course of this Autumn.

He concluded his verbal report, by furnishing a few details in illustration of the important business on hand, and the expectations for the future, as calculated to encourage not only the members of this Synod, and of our churches in this state and adjacent parts, but also, as would appear in due time, the brethren who are similarly associated in other parts of the United States.

It was therefore unanimously

XIV. Resolved, That the committee on publications be authorised to publish such books or tracts as they shall deem expedient, as well as to recommend books and tracts to the Ministerium.

Offers were then made from various congregations for the next meeting of the Synod to be held within their bounds, whereupon

XV. Resolved, That when the Synod adjourn, it shall be to the congregation at Scaghticoke under the pastoral care of the Rev. J. Senderling, on the first Sunday of September next.

XVI. Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to return the thanks of this Synod to the congregation of Christ Church, Ghent, and its Pastor, for the kindness and hospitality which we have enjoyed at their hands.

The minutes were then read and accepted. The members united in singing the Christian farewell ; after which the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Rev. Dr. Mayer and the blessing pronounced by the Rev. President.

MINISTERIAL SITTING.

After the Synod was adjourned, the Ministerium had a session, which was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Wackerhagen.

Three gentlemen made application for the rite of ordination, viz : Rev. Messrs. Henry I. Smith, Charles A. Smith and Wm. Lehman, Mr. Thomas Kilmer applied for license.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to examine Mr. Kilmer ; and that the applicants for ordination be invited to a Theological colloquium previous to their solemn ordination.

The following brethren were appointed as committee of examination, viz : Rev. Dr. Wackerhagen, Secretary ; Treasurer, Rev. Mr. Probst and Senderling. The candidates having been called in, were informed of the resolution of the Ministerium, whereupon the examination of the candidate for license was commenced, before the whole Ministerium, but as the morning was spent, the continuation was deferred till afternoon and the Ministerium adjourned.

MINISTERIAL SITTING.

Saturday P. M.

Opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Thuemmel ; Rev. Messrs. Pohlman and F. Mayer and the delegate from Pennsylvania, Rev. Mr. Probst obtained leave of absence.

The examination of the candidate for license was then closed ; and a favorable report being made by the examining committee, it was resolved, that letters of license be granted to Mr. Kilmer. The colloquium with the candidates for ordination, next took place, whereupon

Resolved, That Rev. Messrs. H. I. Smith, C. A. Smith and W. Lehman be ordained and that the ceremony take place on Sunday, after the usual religious exercises.

A motion then prevailed to close the session of the Ministerium ; which was done with prayer by Rev. President.

GEORGE B. MILLER, *Secretary to Ministerium.*

ORDINATION.

The members of the Synod and the congregation assembled on Sunday morning for the exercises of public worship, and ordination of the candidates.

After the usual exercises, Rev. Dr. Mayer preached from Rev. xx. 17, " The spirit and the bride say come ; and let him that heareth say come ; and let him that is athirst come ; and whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

After the singing of a hymn the solemnities of ordination were begun by a short prayer followed by an impressive address and charge to the candidates by the Rev. Dr. Schaeffer as President.

The candidates having severally given their solemn promise upon the Bible that they would strive to be faithful in their office as well as to conform to the constitution of this Ministerium so long as they shall continue members of this body, they were duly set apart and ordained as ministers of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, by the imposition of hands and benediction.

Mr. Thomas Kilmer, candidate for license, having presented himself before the altar and given his solemn promise to be faithful in the discharge of his duty and to conform to the constitution, was publicly presented with letters of license, after which a charge was given him by Rev. Dr. Wackerhagen.

Prayer was then offered by the Secretary in behalf of our young brethren, after which they received the right hand of fellowship from the brethren. The singing of a hymn and benediction closed the interesting solemnities. In the afternoon Rev. C. B. Thuemmel preached; and in the evening Rev. H. I. Smith.

Divine service was also attended in the afternoon at St. Luke's, Millville, when Rev. C. F. Schæffer preached; and at Churchtown, when Rev. Thomas Lape preached.

PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

1. Dr. Philip F. Mayer, Pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran church of St. John's, Philadelphia, reports :

That he has within the last year administered the sacrament of *Baptism* to 53 infants ; admitted to the rite of *Confirmation* 17 persons ; celebrated the *Lord's Supper* on the 27th of September last with 130, on Christmas day with 119, on Good Friday with 194, and on Whit Sunday with 125 communicants ; that there have been 50 interments in the burial ground belonging to said church ; that two Sunday Schools are attached to the congregation, attended by 18 teachers and from 80 to 100 children who participate in its public worship ; that the rising generation are regularly catechised and instructed by the pastor every Lord's day afternoon, after the conclusion of public worship ; that a Wednesday evening lecture is held the greater part of the year ; that a society exists in the congregation for the relief of its poor members and the assistance of the students in want of aid ; and that a Tract and Book society still exists therein, whose operations however, have been suspended for some time. Dated September 9, 1830.

2. For Rev. Mr. Uhl's report see Statistical Table.

3. Rev. F. G. Mayer's do.

4. Rev. D. Wackerhagen's do.

5. Rev. Mr. Domeier's do.

6. Rev. William Starman, pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran congregation, in Waldoborough, Maine, reports :

I have baptized 14 infants ; administered the Lord's Supper four times, the number of communicants as written down are 186, but I believe there have been double that number ; a great many do not attend the preparation sermon on account of the distance they live from the meeting house, and of course are not written down ; the whole number of communicants in my church are 117, or thereabout ; 6 persons have been confirmed ; 10 funerals I have attended ; we have in this place a Tract, Bible and Temperance Society, principally consisting of congregationalists, but a few of my people are members of the same ; I am a member of the two first mentioned societies. I purchase every year a considerable number of religious tracts of my own choice and distribute them amongst my people gratuitously ; we have in our church, every other month a meeting of our church members, for prayer, exhortation, conference and examination of those who wish to be admitted into the church ; we have also prayer meetings weekly in different districts of our town, in some of which all denominations unite, some are only attended by females of our church ; I preach mostly, twice every week in the different districts of our town ; I have no Sabbath Schools in our meeting

house, finding it so extremely difficult to find persons sufficiently qualified to superintend such a School and near enough to attend to it before divine worship commences, for during the intermission or after divine worship, it is not advisable to attend to it, for several reasons.

7. Rev. F. C. Schæffer, D. D. 177 Grand Street New-York, pastor of "the Evangelical Lutheran Church, of St. James, in New-York," organized in the year 1827, reports, That since the last annual meeting of the Synod, he has *baptised* 40 infants and 4 adults; *Confirmed* 11; *admitted to the Communion* 10 persons, who had been confirmed, and had received the Lord's Supper in other Evangelical Lutheran Congregations, according to which the whole number of new communicant members, including those who were confirmed, and admitted by baptism is 25; *administered the Lord's Supper* to 143 individuals, two of whom were confined to a bed of sickness, and three were visiting guests from distant congregations; 175 communicant members belong to St. James' and at least 60 other are *entitled* to Communion, total 235; 3 communicant members are at present in Europe, and several others are now absent in different parts of the United States; one member has withdrawn. Among those who *departed this life*, were 3 communicant members and 6 other attending members of the Congregation, some of whom were Candidates for confirmation and communion; 2 children of attending members were buried, and the funerals of 5 adults and 1 child out of the Congregation were also attended; in all, the pastor, and during his sickness, an assistant, officiated at 17 funerals. Several persons died at whose interment the pastor could not be present.

There are two *Sunday Schools*, one for males, the other for females. The highest number of pupils in the two schools, during the most favorable season was 95. The highest number of teachers is 24. The plan of instruction has been improved and farther advantages are in contemplation, should the health of the pastor be restored. The pupils of these schools are regularly instructed and catechised as Lutherans, with the children and youth of the Congregation in general, and attend divine worship in St. James'.

Attached to this Church is "the Missionary Society of St. James' Church in the City of New-York." The object of this association is three-fold: 1. "To co-operate with the Domestic Missionary Society of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the state of New-York, in assisting vacant Congregations and destitute districts where the people are not in a condition to support a regular gospel ministry." 2. "To provide suitable books for the Sunday Schools of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. James' in the City of New-York, and to defray the necessary expences of said Schools." 3. "To aid in preserving and improving the Juvenile library of St. James' Church. The Executive Committee of this Society have particular charge of the Sunday Schools, &c." The Society has gradually increased since the time of its formation; and will be ready after the approaching anniversary, to make a second payment into the treasury of the State Society.

The Female Benevolent Society of St. James, is instituted for va-

rious objects, connected with the temporal and spiritual interests of the Congregation.

This Church contributes annually to the Synodical treasury, and assists by pecuniary means in the promotion of all proper measures of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as circumstances require.

Stated and special occasions are afforded during the week, to those who are desirous of receiving religious instruction, biblical interpretation and encouragement unto evangelical piety. Several candidates for Confirmation and Baptism have already attended one course of preparatory instruction. The whole number of those who purpose to present themselves at the altar, after another term of instruction, cannot be, at present, satisfactorily ascertained. In presenting this statement, the pastor of St. James' Church regrets to observe, that in consequence of his illness during the past year, he has been much hindered in his official labors. It had been his fond hope to have presented at this time the evidences of the success of sundry contemplated undertakings for the prosperity of his beloved people, and for the encouragement of others. In this hope he has been disappointed; and while he laments, that during frequent attacks of a dangerous illness, the sacred work requiring vigorous hands, has necessarily suffered, he is thankful that occasional provision was made for the edification of the Congregation, when he was laid low upon a bed of suffering, and that even now they are not destitute of the bread of life. On account of his trying affliction, the number of baptised, confirmed, and new communicants is *considerably less* than it would have been, had not the Providence of an Allwise God interrupted the usual labors in the Church. To that merciful Saviour, who has thus far most graciously looked upon this affectionate & faithful Congregation, and upon their afflicted pastor, all the concerns of the future are confidently committed. His will be done, and his glory be evermore promoted! Amen.

8. Rev. Geo. B. Miller's report. See Statistical Table.

9. Rev. Henry N. Pohlman, pastor of the Congregations of New Germantown, German-Valley and Sprucernn, reports that he has *baptised* 59; confirmed 2; the whole number of Communicants 170; communed during the year 240; deaths of communicant members, 5; preached 12 funeral sermons. Catechization every Tuesday afternoon in New Germantown, and Lecture in the same place every Wednesday evening in the fall and winter months. Catechization every second Saturday afternoon in the other two Churches. An independent Sunday School, in which all the children of the village of every denomination, are instructed. Thirty dollars raised for Sunday School Library.

10. Rev. J. Senderling's report. See Statistical Tables.

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| 11. " P. G. Cole's, | do. |
| 12. " F. H. Guenther's, | do. |
| 13. " J. Berger's, | do. |
| 14. " Wm. Eyer's, | do. |
| 15. " H. Hayunga's, | do. |
| 16. " Thos. Lape's, | do. |

STATISTICAL TABLE,

Containing an abstract of the Parochial reports, and Missionary and Synodical Contributions.—September 10th 1830.

CONGREGATIONS.	BAPTISMS.		Confir- mations.	Commu- nicants.	No. entitled to communion.	Deaths.	CONTRIBUTIONS.			SUNDAY SCHOOLS.			Miscellaneous Remarks.
	Infants.	Adults.					Miss.	Synod.		Schools.	Teachers.	Scholars.	
1. St. John's Philadelphia,	53	—	17	194	—	50	—	\$5 00		2	—	—	{ Catechisation every Lord's day after ser.
2. St. Thomas, Churchtown,	98	—	—	61	—	—	—	2 00		—	—	—	Two removed.
3. Ebenezer, Albany,	27	—	7 ad.	19	—	2	—	5 00		1	—	—	
4. Germantown,				170	—								
Livingston,				136	—								
Pine Plains,	134	1	8	20	—	17	\$1 50	2 00		2	—	—	{ Instruction every Sunday, after serv.
5. Dilleburg, Mannheim, &c.	79	—	14	53	—	9	—	2 00		1	—	—	
6. Waldoborough, Maine,	14	—	6	—	—	10	2 50	2 50		—	—	—	
7. St. James, New-York,	40	4	11	175	—	17	—	5 00		2	24	95	
8. Hartwick,	2	—	4	18	—	—	1 00	2 50		—	10	40	Hartwick Sem. P. O.
9. New Germantown, &c.	59	—	2	—	—	—	10 00	4 00		—	—	—	Regular catechisation
10. Brunswick and Scaghticoke,	40	15	145	350	400	—	—	5 00		—	—	110	16 dol's contrib. to do-
11. Saugerties, Woodstock and Athens,	40	1	19	70	—	4	—	3 00		—	—	—	Sadmit. (misc. So.
12. Ebenezer, Folksburg,	17	—	—	50	—	3	—	1 00		—	—	—	Bath P. O.
St. Peter's, Ernestown,	8	—	—	25	—	2	50	—		—	—	—	
13. Christ Church, Ghent,	21	—	—	72	—	5	—	5 00		—	10	75	
St. Luke's, Millville,	21	—	—	22	—	13	—	—		—	—	—	
14. Rhinebeck,	20	—	—	126	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	
Wurtsburg,	23	—	—	102	—	—	3 50	2 00		—	—	—	
15. Williamsburg and Osnabruck, U. C.	9	—	—	165	—	—	*20 00	—		—	—	—	{ Rev. H. Hayuga is absent on a voyage to Europe.
16. St. Paul's, Johnstown,	60	—	—	80	—	8	—	3 00		2	—	—	{ Contribution is for last and present yr.
17. U. Ger. Luth. Churches, St. Matth. N. Y.	—	—	—	—	—	—	10 00	10 00		—	—	—	
18. Stone Arabia, &c.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5 00		—	—	—	
Total,	765	31	279	1908	—	157	29 00	66 00		18	44	440	

*Twenty dollars for the Missionary fund were handed to the Secretary after the meeting of the Synod, by Rev. H. Hayuga.

*Extracts from the President's Report.***BELOVED BRETHREN :**

On this day of our annual meeting in Synod, we have abundant reason to express our grateful acknowledgments to a kind Providence for the preservation of our lives and health, for the necessary strength and ability of soul and body, to perform the duties of the ministerial office in our respective congregations, and for the blessing which has rested on our labors. If we cast our eyes over the occurrences in the Lutheran church in the U. S. our hearts are cheered with the prospect of the continually increasing activity of our Brethren every where, and the continuation of their zeal for the extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

If we look back to old times, and to many of those members of our church who have 20, 30 or 40 years ago been admitted to the privileges of the church, after a regular course of instruction, do we not observe, that most of them are sincerely attached to our venerable church; while others, who perhaps since have been admitted upon a less careful instruction, appear rather lukewarm and indifferent? Have we not reason sufficient to judge of the cause? I know, my Brethren, you will say, in those times *parents* were desirous to see their children instructed in the doctrines of our religion; the little lambs of the christian flock presented themselves with eagerness at the altar on the Lord's day to be taught, but in our time, we have called, and they will not come! No doubt, we all have experienced this, and we all have cause to lament the change—Yet, I do not think, that the source and origin of this change is so hidden, that it could not be discovered. The elder brethren among us will remember, that during the latter part of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th century, Sectarians of various kinds were bold in the assertion, that instruction in religion derived from catechisms or other books was of no avail, that man ought to receive the immediate instruction of the Holy Spirit, if he wishes to become a true christian; that the admission and introduction of young people into the church by confirmation, was radically wrong; that persons should only be admitted upon their profession to have met with a change of heart, and this, I say, truly needful change of heart, was not taught to be a conversion from selfishness to charity, from deeds of unrighteousness to actions of holiness, but men were told, that a change of heart consisted in certain feelings, indescribable in their nature, and in a persuasion, bottomed upon these sensations, that the subjects of them had become the children and the elect of God. The arts of rhetoric were called in aid to excite such feelings, and nothing was omitted, which in any way was calculated to produce strong impressions on the senses; in many instances astonishing effects were produced by proceedings of such a nature, and wherever a serious and sober reflection and a prayerful study of the scriptures succeeded these excitements, much good has undoubtedly been done; but where they have not been supported by these means, they passed off, and like a fire of straw left neither coal nor ashes behind. But man in general judges from outward appearances, and what wonder therefore, if occurrences of this kind made a strong impression also upon

the members of our church, and if many began to believe, that the church of their fathers had become dead, and if many could only find the true food for their souls in the harangues of men, who from some cause or motive, had persuaded themselves, and were endeavoring to persuade others, that they were peculiarly called to preach the gospel, and that gratis, without fee or reward? One of the first evil consequences of the impression made by this new system on the members of our church was, that parents became careless in sending their children to catechisation, that the pious song of the morning and evening hymn was no more heard in families, that the excellent prayers of our church were banished, and because few fathers of families had the gift of extempore prayer in public, family worship became neglected, and an indefinite hope was entertained, of becoming suddenly enlightened without instruction. Enlightened christians could not fail to observe from the actual state of things, that unless instructions were given to the rising generation, religion itself would be endangered. If we therefore desire to preserve our ancient church, if we wish that our people shall again in general feel their former attachment towards it, let us lay hold of that spirit of the age, which manifests itself in the spread of Sunday and Infant Schools, and in Bible classes, to which means of instruction our people, especially the young will repair, and let us view in these means, under another name the revival of that precious system of catechisation, an inheritance left us by our forefathers, and which in the land of our progenitors has produced so happy effects, that a celebrated Professor of a Theological Seminary of a sister church, acknowledges, that during his stay at Halle, he found every boy of 10 years old even among the poorest classes of people in that city, able to give him a satisfactory account of the fundamental doctrines of the christian religion, and that all similar children whom he had an opportunity to question, manifested a suitable knowledge of the occurrences recorded in the holy scriptures. If we shall act upon this principle, the most happy results will be the consequence, a spirit of piety and christian knowledge will spread itself over our whole church, we shall no longer hear the profanation of the name of God among us, the spirit of charity and benevolence will cast out the spirit of selfishness; Missionary and Education societies will flourish among us, and the minister of the gospel need not fear to starve in the midst of rich and numerous congregations.

In my report of last year, I recommended to the Synod to continue the Missionary committee, notwithstanding the establishment of the Missionary society, hoping, that those congregations, which have not united with the Missionary society, would be willing to contribute the offerings of their hearts, for the assistance of vacant congregations, to the Synodical committee; that those of their brethren and kinsmen, who live in distant and small settlements, and would wish to hear the services of a christian minister of their church, and are also willing to make every possible exertion for that purpose, on their part, might be aided by such a fund. At the last Synodical meeting nine dollars only were contributed, and that by one individual congregation, to said fund, and in the course of the Spring, the Al-

many congregation under the pastoral care of the Rev. Mr. Mayer, made the handsome collection of 25 dollars, to aid a weak congregation in Madison county in the purchase and repairs of a church ; but we ought to work with united hands, the wants of our brethren are great. If we desire, that they should adhere with their children to the church of their fathers, we must exert ourselves to bring the gospel to them. I know there are a number of Evangelical Lutheran ministers here, who have undertaken Missionary tours at their own expense, and I am persuaded, that many others would do the same, if they had the means to do it ; yet I also know, that some, who have undertaken such journeys at their own expense have sometimes severely felt the burden, it is therefore no more than right, that we should exert ourselves, to aid our destitute brethren, and I therefore entreat you again, beloved brethren, to be liberal in your contributions. There are several congregations within the bounds of our Synod, which are able from their means to contribute from one to two hundred dollars for the support of the gospel, they are too far separated from each other, to unite and to accept the services of one minister, which will be apparent, if I name for instance the congregations in Jefferson and Lewis counties, Clay and Cicero congregations in Onondaga, Summit and Davenport, in Schoharie and Delaware counties, and other places. As far as I know, these congregations are willing to do their part towards the support of ministers, by the aid of 400 dollars for a few years, these and other congregations would be so strengthened and encouraged, as to enable them to support the gospel by their own means. To further this work, I recommend to the Synod, to request the ministers and lay delegates, to encourage the formation of Missionary societies in their respective congregations, if possible, as auxiliary to the great society, if not possible or convenient, independent of each other ; let the members of such societies set apart the proceeds of a quarter, half or whole acre, as their liberality may prompt them, for Missionary purposes, let them deliver the proceeds into the hands of an executive committee, empowered to sell the grain, and to deliver the monies into the hands of the respective societies, which then may agreeable to their constitutions either transmit their contributions to the Treasurer of the great society, or to the chairman of the Missionary committee of Synod.

While we were in session last year, it pleased Providence to remove from us our beloved Brother, the Rev. Henry Møeller, in the 80th year of his life. He died on the 15th day of September, 1829, at the house of his son, Dr. Møeller, of Sharon, where he had enjoyed in his infirmities the attention of his beloved children. At his special request I had visited him the week before the meeting of our last Synod ; and though I found him weak in body, yet still did he possess in a considerable degree the powers of his mind. At his request, the Rev. Mr. Wieting, Dr. Møeller and his family and myself, united to celebrate in the holy communion the remembrance of the death of our Saviour. On that occasion he expressed his joyful expectation of a speedy relief from all his pain, and of soon being with Christ his Saviour in the realms of bliss and peace. He assured me, that his reliance for help in the hour of death was founded on Him, who out

of love for us had tasted death on the cross ; on his atoning and vicarious sacrifice he rested his hopes of acceptance with God. His cheerfulness and pious resignation in the will of his heavenly Father manifested, that he entertained truly faithful hopes. In this situation of mind he continued to the last moment of his life ; and though our brother and his children had anticipated from the nature of his disease, that the last struggle would be severe, his prayers for an early departure were heard ; he fell asleep on the afternoon of the above named 15th Sept. unexpected to his children, who had seen him in the forenoon still able to walk about in the room. His memory will be dear to all who have been acquainted with him in the days of his activity in the vineyard of his Lord. He was buried in the churchyard of St. John's, in the town of Sharon ; his body rests in the midst of those members of his church, who had gone before him, and to whom he had broken the bread of life in former years.

It is likewise my duty to inform the Synod, that on the 20th of July, the Rev. Mr. Hendricks departed this life in his congregation at Saddleriver, Bergen county, New Jersey ; I have learnt no further particulars concerning his departure, except that the Rev. Mr. Geisenhainer, from New-York, was invited to preach his funeral sermon. From that Rev. Gentleman, the Synod may probably obtain more particulars.

Several changes have taken place during the past year, among the ministers and congregations connected with us. The Rev. Perry G. Cole has removed from the congregations of Summit in the county of Schoharie, to the congregations of Westcamp and Woodstock, and, as I believe, has taken upon himself the charge of these congregations, although I have not received official information respecting it. The Rev. Mr. Lawyer has accepted a call to the congregation at Sandlake, and has been installed in said congregation, May the 16th. In the month of June I gave to Mr. Charles A. Smith the license as candidate of the ministry, agreeable to a resolution of last Synod ; Rev. Mr. Smith has since officially informed me of having accepted a call from the congregations of Stone Arabia and Palatine. The Rev. Mr. Eisenlord has informed me, that he has taken the call from the Minden congregation. From our Brethren in Canada, I have received several communications ; in Mr. Guenther's congregations, measures were taken for the purchase of a parsonage and glebe lot ; the members remained attached to the church, and considerable attention was paid to the preached word ; the congregations of the Rev. Mr. Hayunga are becoming more and more consolidated, there exists among them not only a desire to hear, but also to do the word of God ; the controversy concerning the glebe lot and church is not yet settled, although the Bishop of Quebec has promised to bring it soon to a close.

I have also to inform the Synod, that, finding business multiply on my hands so, that I was unable to discharge all my duties, I gave up the congregation at Hartwick last fall, and they have chosen the Rev. Mr. Miller as Pastor in my place. In the spring of the present year, I received and accepted a call as a Professor to the Theological Seminary at Gettysburgh. In consequence of this call, I have at the last

meeting of the Board of Trustees, resigned my office as Principal of the Hartwick Seminary, and I now resign the office of President of this Synod into your hands ; assuring you at the same time, that no distance shall prevent me from taking a lively interest in the welfare of a church, in which I have been your fellow laborer for these last 21 years. The bonds of christian friendship and intimacy, in which I have lived with the greater number of my Brethren, I trust will not be severed by this separation. Our friendship has rested upon christian principles ; in Christ our head ; in his doctrine, and particularly in that of his atoning death we have been united, and that bond will and cannot be weakened by any earthly separation, since the strong hand of death cannot break it. For our christian friends still live in our affections, though their bodies rest in the silent tomb. If I have *inadvertently* offended any of the Brethren members of the Synod, I sincerely ask their forgiveness ; *knowingly* I never have offended one, and I assure you on my part, that my best wishes for your and your families' welfare follow you ; and though it is not likely, that we may again meet on earth as fellow laborers in this portion of our Lutheran Zion, I humbly trust, that we will once meet again in the habitations of eternal happiness and peace.